

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

BIB-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /075 W

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R 131400Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8078

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 273

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GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR SHERER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CZ, US

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK MEDALS TO CP USA MEMBERS

1. RUDE PRAVO MAY 13 REPORTS THAT ON MAY 12 AMBASSADOR SPACIL, AT DINNER AT GOC UN MISSION IN NEW YORK, PRESENTED MEDALS TO LEADING CP USA FIGURES "ON THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY THE SOVIET ARMY AND FOR SERVICES IN DEFENSE OF PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM, ESPECIALLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVENTS IN THE CSSR IN THE YEAR 1968."

2. COMMENT: HAVING JUST RECEIVED A PROTEST FROM THE MFA BECAUSE WE PUT OUT A PAMPHLET ABOUT US FORCES' ROLE IN LIBERATING CZECHOSLOVAKIA -- ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE PAMPHLET INTERFERED IN CZECHOSLOVAK INTERNAL AFFAIRS -- WE ARE BEMUSED BY THIS CEREMONY AS ALMOST SPACIL'S FINAL OFFICIAL ACT IN US. WE WONDER WHAT GOC REACTION WOULD BE IF EMBASSY PRESENTED SOME MEDALS TO SOME CZECH VETERANS WHO FOUGHT WITH PATTON IN WORLD WAR II. (WE KNOW MANY OF THEM, AND PRACTICALLY EVERY ONE HAS SERVED TIME FOR THE MISTAKE OF FIGHTING WITH WESTERN FORCES DURING WORLD WAR II.) WITHOUT

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SEEMING TOO PAROCHIAL, WE WONDER IF THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT CON-

SIDER IT APPROPRIATE THAT WE MENTION, EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR
PRAGUE, THAT THIS LITTLE CEREMONY IN NEW YORK COULD WELL BE
CONSIDERED "INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS."
PERRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Draft Date: 13 MAY 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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